

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

For 1878.

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In addition to a Chromo-Lithograph Plate of the NEW CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE AT THE PEAK,

also of

THE VARIOUS HOUSE FLAGS

(Designed especially for this Work);

MAPS OF HONGKONG, JAPAN, and of the

THE COAST OF CHINA.

besides other local information and statistics corrected to date of publication, tending to make this work in every way suitable for Public, Mercantile, and General Offices.

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, MARCH 26TH, 1878.

It is to be hoped that some enquiry has been or will be made into a matter which has recently been the subject of an action in the Summary Court, but which was by no means cleared up in the course of the trial. It appears that a certain Mr. RAMOS had, some time previously been sued for \$22, and that he had agreed to settle the matter by payment of the money. Instead, however, of paying it to the plaintiff, who it seems, was not at hand at the moment, he left the amount in the hands of the assistant-bailiff of the Court, PEDRO BELTRAN, with instructions to pay it over to the plaintiff. There is a rule of the Court which prohibits the officer from receiving money on the settlement of a case, which is rightly regarded as a private matter not coming under the cognizance of the Court except as an accomplished fact. However, BELTRAN received the money, not as he puts it, in his character of bailiff, but as a friend of RAMOS, to facilitate the private settlement of the dispute. Whether the rule of the Court has been transgressed, or whether BELTRAN's plea will excuse his action, is a question that concerns the Court only. It is a mere matter of discipline, and we should not have referred to the case if this had been the only irregularity revealed by it. In passing, however, we may express the opinion that the rule, which is a very salutary one, ought to be strictly enforced, and if it has been misunderstood in the present instance it should be made so clear for the future as to admit of no misunderstanding. But the rest of the story has yet to be told. The plaintiff in the action against RAMOS, learning where the money was to be found, applied to BELTRAN for it, and it was not forthcoming. BELTRAN did not for a moment deny that he had received it, but stated that he had handed it over to another officer of the Court, Mr. CHUN TAI-KWONG, for safe keeping. This officer, however, did not produce the money, and RAMOS brought an action for it, of course recovering against BELTRAN, who admitted having received it. The serious question which arises is this: "Where is the money?" It appears that the Chinese clerk of the Court, CHUN TAI-KWONG, has the custody of a safe in which moneys which come into the hands of the Court are from time to time deposited. It appears also as an admitted fact that CHUN TAI-KWONG has been in the habit of receiving money privately from BELTRAN to be kept in this safe. A strict account is kept of the Court money, but from what appeared there would seem to be no account whatever kept of these private deposits. CHUN TAI-KWONG states that he has returned to BELTRAN all the money so deposited up to the date of the action against BELTRAN, and BELTRAN states that this particular amount (which CHUN TAI-KWONG does not specially recollect) has never been returned. These facts lead to one very obvious conclusion, namely, that one of the two officers concerned must have ultimately had the money, though it is, of course, possible that through some carelessness he may not have known that he had it. The question, however, to which attention is clearly drawn by the incident is whether it is desirable that this public safe should be used for private purposes? If not, strict orders should be given to this effect. It may be hoped that this unpleasant occurrence will have the effect of producing a

spirit of order and regularity in the small but multifarious money matters connected with the Summary Court.

The steamer *Sunda* and *Acapanga* arrived at Shanghai on the 24th instant.

We are informed that the O. S. S. Company's steamer *Hector* will leave Singapore to-day, the 25th instant, for this port.

As will be seen by an advertisement in today's paper, the Debating Society is to meet on Monday next.

We are glad to notice from the Java news given further on that Mr. Mukhi, the Russian Consul, who was reported by the Shanghai Courier to have been eaten by the natives of New Guinea, has been found.

Private advice has been received from Yunnan to the effect that the Mahommedan rebellion has been completely put down. Tali-fo has been re-taken. Too-wan-ku the rebel chief, has poisoned himself, and all the Mahomedans have submitted.

We are glad to hear that the present French Mail brings news that the edicts prohibiting Christianity in Japan have at last been removed from the notice boards. There is however, no news up to the present of the captive Christians having been set at liberty.

With respect to the Portuguese Correto *Daque do Peixe*, which left this for Saigon, the Portuguese Consul for Siam, and with a rock near Cape Saint James, we hear that she will probably be condemned at Saigon. The Governor of Macao left by the French mail for that place to meet her, and will in consequence of the disaster be unable to carry out his diplomatic mission to Siam.

SUPREME COURT.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE THE HON. CHIEF-JUSTICE SKALE.

THE "POYANG" CASE.

The following jurors were called: Messrs. F. T. P. Foster, Dr. A. dos Remedios, M. Heimann, H. C. Edmund, S. Easton, M. Friesling, The Attorney-General, prosecuted, and Mr. Ayton, defence. Mr. Stephens defended the prisoner, George Ayton, who was charged with stealing from the British steamer *Poyang* a purse containing \$83 in bank-notes, a prosciunary of \$150, and a pen-knife, the property of Wong-chun-sang.

The Attorney-General opened the case at a considerable length, remarking that it was one which would require great care on the part of the jury, as the defendant set up was that the prisoner was the victim of a conspiracy. The prisoner was the son of the Captain of the *Poyang*. The complainant was the proprietor of an eating-house in Canton, and was also a broker, and frequently passed up and down between this and Canton. When he resided at the Tung-yuen confectioner's shop in the Central Market. On the 13th January he went on board at Canton to the steamer *Left*. He then round his name, according to his own statement, containing \$83 in bank-notes, a purse on the *Tung-yuen* for \$150, and a pen-knife. This purse he described minutely. On arrival he found he had lost the purse, and he went to the shop in the Central Market, and the same evening (so he said) wrote out and posted up on the *Poyang* a placard offering a reward of all the notes for the return of the order of \$160 Lai-joung acting pantry boy on board, would state that on the morning of the 13th he was outside the cook-house, where he picked up a purse (described exactly as above) and a pen-knife and opened it. He saw inside it some bank-notes, a purse, and a pen-knife, in short it could not be doubtless the complainant's purse.

Complainant then stated the fluid he misappropriated had her face was of a dark colour, whereas the fluid produced was white. The lady and the bottle and cork produced were the same, but the fluid was not; the fluid produced was a little stronger than the dash fluid, and as this would not fit, she would that. But come what may, said anything she might say, was burning nor stinging any time the morning, the same upstairs and said she wanted to leave, and demanded her money. She told her that it was not right for him to leave then, as she knew her children were sick, and moreover her mouth was only half strong; but complainant would insist on going and was very noisy. She then took her clothes away and came up demanding her money, and as the witness was great noise defendant paid her 15 days wages and the same amount as the complainant had taken off. The woman then left the house with no marks on her face, and without having ever complained about the fluid having touched her face. She verily believed the complainant had only taken this means to get away from her situation and to recover her wages.

Mr. May advised the lady not to pay complainant her dues, and she returned and gave a month's warning. Complainant was asked whether she knew what the fluid was used for, and she answered that she did not. The lady and complainant knew very well, as she told her, and she had seen her use it often.

Mr. May said he believed she did, but for her information he would tell her. It was to spruce about the floor and stairs, to create a healthy atmosphere, and to prevent the spread of sickness, and keep it away. The lady, her mistress, had also children down with sickness, and the fluid was used in consequence, and he who she had seen her mistress sprinkle the Sud.

Complainant then admitted she had.

His Worship told complainant that she was an impudent, lazy woman; she saw her mistress' children were sick, and just because it called on her to be a little more attentive she made him an excuse to get away from work, and give trouble into the bargain. He had given her a fair amount of notice before he would severely punish her, and would only be too happy to punish a heartless woman like her.

The lady said it was far from her thought to have ever committed any offence, as that when she was sent changed her. She had her master sent to her, so far forgot herself. When her servants did not suit her, she discharged them as the best precaution.

The summons was dismissed.

PROSECUTION.

A Chinese carpenter named Poong-kow, employed to repair on board the British ship *Forward*, summoned Mr. Marney, foreman carpenter to Mr. Stamford, the Mr. McDonald ship carpenter's yard, and threatened to assault him on board the *Forward*.

Complainant stated that he was on the stage at the side at work, when the defendant got up the side and punched him, giving him a black eye.

The defendant admitted slapping the complainant, but denied giving him a black eye, slapped him under great provocation. On Sunday last the whole of the carpenters had evidently designed combined to beat him.

However he went to see that they had not been successful, but singularly enough he had disappeared. Still, he should have been found, as he was not at the boat. One man had actually bolded him in an iron tank and let all the water out over the lower deck, and then made off, and had not since turned up. On Sunday the men seemed inclined the same way, and he gave the complainant a one-inch bolt and measured out a seven-eights inch to him, and told him to bore a seven-eighth hole for the bolt, in fact he had comments to him that when he had bored it, he had a hole of a inch larger than the bolt. One man had actually bolded him in an iron tank and let all the water out over the lower deck, and then made off, and had not since turned up. On Sunday the men seemed inclined the same way, and he gave the complainant a one-inch bolt and measured out a seven-eights inch to him, and told him to bore a seven-eighth hole for the bolt, in fact he had comments to him that when he had bored it, he had a hole of a inch larger than the bolt.

The defendant was to be tried for the same, but he had left the steamship after the 13th January, the chief cook of the *Poyang* asked the prisoner for a small sum, that the prisoner refused to give him, and the cook got the box the purse was in and the note \$5. He was specially called away by his master, and dropped the purse, whereupon the pantry boy who had given evidence against him picked it up and returned it to him, asking for a loan of \$20 as a reward. This was refused. He conceived that the whole story was founded on that circumstance. It had been said that it was singular that he should have paid \$5 to the opium shop on the very day he put it in, as it was because he had it that day that the cook got the box the purse was in and the note \$5.

Mr. Haydar then proceeded to call his witnesses, three of whom had been examined when the Court adjourned to this day at 10 a.m.

SUMMARY JURISDICTION COURT.

BETWEEN THE HON. H. J. BAILLIE,
CHIN-SEW-KOW & CHING-SEW-KOW.—\$43.00.
Judgment for \$200.

M. A. DA SILVA AND ANOTHER v. DR. DUROUF.—\$500.—In the case judgment was given for the plaintiffs, with damages \$300, and costs. Leave to appeal was granted.

SHIAH SINCH & KWOK-A-MOO.—\$12.50.—Judgment for \$12.50.

E. ESTARICO v. MERCUBOL.—\$109.12.—Judgment for the plaintiff.

E. J. ETTEL & LEONG-A-FOON.—This was an action of ejectment brought by the plaintiff as representing the London Missionary Society, against the French salt fish vegetable, Dr. Etell, who was his tenant on the 21st instant. Occupant of house No. 84 did not answer to his summons, accordingly a warrant was issued for his apprehension, he having been summoned before to answer a similar charge. The defendant present had not been summoned before, when No. 84, appeared to answer his summons, he said he was not responsible for the property, and was not answerable for the damage done to it. His wife was with him. He was therefore fined \$10.

A. K. CHIEN & CHUNG.—This was an action of ejectment brought by the plaintiff, Dr. Chung, against the defendant, Dr. Chieng, who was his tenant on the 21st instant. The defendant did not appear to answer his summons, accordingly a warrant was issued for his apprehension, he having been summoned before to answer a similar charge. His wife was with him. He was therefore fined \$10.

OBSTRUCTIONS.

Inspector Orley, in charge of the Western District, summoned complainant of house No. 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91, 93, 95, 97, 99, 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517, 519, 521, 523, 525, 527, 529, 531, 533, 535, 537, 539, 541, 543, 545, 547, 549, 551, 553, 555, 557, 559, 561, 563, 565, 567, 569, 571, 573, 575, 577, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 589, 591, 593, 595, 597, 599, 601, 603, 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615, 617, 619, 621, 623, 625, 627, 629, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 641, 643, 645, 647, 649, 651, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663, 665, 667, 669, 671, 673, 675, 677, 67

The best way to get inland, are along the back roads, which are running down to the sea. I have been skirmishing three days now; real, one long chance with No. 8 shot, which didn't seem to affect them much—that was the first time I saw them; I have cut up some lead now into big square lumps, which I rather think will startle the first turkey that comes across it. Before getting this gun (a muzzle-loader) I had a breech-loader warranted not to kill at any distance. Over in Meridunga a cookstove sat, smoking, hit and burnt on a low bank. I have had a few breech-loaders, which would load hard again. There was a trifling difficulty about getting out the discharged cartridges, which required a bamboo and a brickbat or tree trunk to overcome; when thinking I suppose that he had given me enough trouble and couldn't afford to waste any more time fooling, there he gave a parting screech and flew away. We subsequently discovered that the cartridge had ingeniously been made with a wire loop to separate the powder from the shot. I am learning Spanish, I am getting on quite fast, especially at swearing—I can "swear" with anybody. I don't exactly know what it means, something very dreadful I hope; I say it about once every half hour as long as it runs; I have just said it for the hundred and sixtieth time in one hundred and sixty consecutive half hours; if you think I have overlooked the fact, that there are two nights in that time you are mistaken. Last night I said that I had got to speak Spanish there were enough people around, and I intended to find myself taking an aerial flight, house and all, towards the Pacific, every minute. The night before a snake came into the bedroom, a big chap. A six foot poisonous snake escaped in the house a month back, and a thirty-five foot one, from a cage underneath it three weeks ago; and both these interesting epidemics are supposed to be still somewhere about the place. I though if I lay quite still I should come to no harm, according to medical advice, and I lay quite still, and I had just ready for studding, and when lay within six feet of where I was sleeping, had been carried off. (N.B.—owing to the force of circumstances and the snakes, there are no rats, etc., whatever you think about the premises). Had a rather unpleasant time dodging the leeks in the roof which kept on breaking out in fresh places every now and again, both nights,—and it was pitch dark in addition.

This hideous weather is too bad. Here we are in a most interesting country, with five miles of coast, considerate animals, said to be a centipede six feet long, has its quarters within a very few miles of where a woman with a tail (a thing which if my memory serves me rightly, Darwin says he can find no authentic record of in any country) lives; a small minnow is supposed to be still somewhere about the place. Even if I lay quite still I should come to no harm, according to medical advice, and I lay quite still, and I had just ready for studding, and when lay within six feet of where I was sleeping, had been carried off. (N.B.—owing to the force of circumstances and the snakes, there are no rats, etc., whatever you think about the premises). Had a rather unpleasant time dodging the leeks in the roof which kept on breaking out in fresh places every now and again, both nights,—and it was pitch dark in addition.

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One way and another, we manage to get along pretty well, gallivanting about at hales, little singing parties on board, the *Sea Men*, loafing in a general sort of way up the village, taking lessons in Spanish, Tagalog and Hesperian from various hair teachers—sprawling on the mats and holding the *gong* (the gong is the name of the wood-shop), who mimicked his foot for leg the other day, indulging in a cocoanut at one shop, and the prospect of getting a basket of eggs from another town at the next. The latter rather a more important consideration than may at first appear, two days ago there was nothing but rice and salt left in the village, and we went and quartered ourselves in the *Sea Men*; not even a banana to had about. On the subject of bananas, I have received information from Shanghai as to value and quantity, but have not been able to talk to any of the men here, and they never heard of such weather before.

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I have, however, been able to talk to some of the men here, and they never heard of such weather before.

As a general rule I intend to stay nothing but a week, and then opportunity will be verified.

People give me information in a good faith, but generally at second hand, and even if they have seen things themselves, they either forget or are deceived by casual appearances.

As thus, I was rather anxious in Macau by learning a discussion between two people as to whether a *tao tao* (a native) seized his prey with his head or his tail; both those people had seen the same but had several pins. However, as birds, butterflies and other small fry fide into the same categories of strange weirdness, the men come here to talk to the tail end. They may be true or they may not, but it is so nice saying much about them, that I am in a position to describe for myself what the things really are.

At the balls here, I have noticed that the men have decidedly the upper hand over the women, who sit quiet and still round the room and appear to have very little go in them.

In *Taiwan* it was quite a pair of shoes: the girls were the ones who had the most, kept themselves quiet to the last, and when they came home were the tail end. They may be true or they may not, but it is so nice saying much about them, that I am in a position to describe for myself what the things really are.

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Extracts.

RICH.

Yes, I am rich, although the world
Would doubtless call me poor;
But I've so many blessings that,
I scarce can count them over.
Then how can I be poor? No, no!
I'm rich, and God has made me so!

The sun, that through my casement shines,
And dances on the wall,

Is just as bright, and warm, and glad;

As that in lovely hall;

And none can rob us of its light,
Thank God! I'm free, and have my sight!

The vines and roses by my door,
So beautiful to see,

All fresh and sweet with scents of heaven—

They fill with fragrance all the air,

And fill my heart with praise and prayer.

No need of lute or violiner

To cheer my lonely way;

The robin and the oriole

Sing to me all the day;

And, through the night, the whip-poor-will

In plaintive notes, sing to me still.

The breeze bodes well for the ship away

To isles beyond the sea,

Brings roses gay and happy smiles,

And wealth of health to me.

O how I love the Sweet, fresh air!

It tells me God is everywhere.

If I'm in need, some friendly hand—

He sends to my relief;

It sorrow comes, some loving heart

Brings to share my grief;

I never can be poor; no, no!

I'm rich, and God has made me so!

ALIGHTERS.

(Specially Comunicated to the "Liverpool Advertiser")

"Land of the sun"—Byron.

We left Marseilles in the Arthezes, one of the Massena's steamers, which sail every Saturday evening.

The next day we coasted the Barbary Isles, after which another night was passed at sea. When we stepped on deck the following morning we were before the magnificent city of Algiers.

Algeria Genoa and Naples, which retire from the water, the African Nervis, steps boldly out into the sea, its Moorish buildings, minarets, mosques, capes, and white houses with flat roofs, rising in one unbroken mass up the heights, stand in dazzling brilliancy against the blue sky of Africa; whilst the coast and hills, covered with southern vegetation, complete a picture which once seen can never be effaced from the mind.

The Arthezes had scarcely dropped anchor when we were surrounded by boats filled with Arabs. An indescribable scene of confusion followed. Vexatious in guttural Arabic and African French, a host of wild-looking Kabyles scrambled up the ladder. Rushed back by the gendarmes, who are always the first up, and pulled down by the crowd trying to ascend, only a few gain the deck. One of these, a long lanky fellow, with short baggy trousers à la Turc about his middle, and a nominal shirt, looking in the scanty plumage with his shaven head, not unlike a native ostrich, seized our hand-bags tête à tête. We thought the Arab would have carried us off with our baggage when a stout Nubian interposed his claim to the prey. All was quarrelling and fighting about us, whilst the row in the boats presented another phase of Arab life at home. We never afterwards saw such a turbulent set for Orientals as are in general quiet, grave, and dignified.

On landing in Algiers we are not disappointed with the appearance of the place as we are in many Eastern cities, which look beautiful only from the deck of the steamer. In the lower or French town we meet with all the elegance and convenience of a European capital, whilst in the upper or Arab quarter we see Moorish architecture and the picturesque costumes of the natives.

It is this union of civilised life, side by side, restaurants, coaches, omnibuses, the same as we have them at home, whilst the diversity of the dresses of Arabs, Moors, Spains, and Turks surprise us at every step. We do not know which is most delightful and astonishing—the luxuriant verdure of a country where the soil never tires of yielding its fruits, the mildness and softness of the climate, or the variety and picturesqueness of the costumes of the people. For the man of taste, the artist, and the poet, Algiers is a most enjoyable place to live in from October to May—two-thirds of the year. Apartments furnished as comfortably as they are in France, are easily met with.

From the windows and terraces of our house we have a grand view of the African coast, the snow-capped Djebel—a mountain of the Atlas range—rising in the background. The weather is lovely, the country green, the fields adorned with flowers, the trees in full leaf, the birds warble and sing; in a word nature is here in winter what it is with us in May, only the vegetation of Africa is very different from that of Europe.

To what a change of scene and weather sixty-four hours of actual travelling—from London to Algiers—carries us! The tourist in search of novelty, or the professional man requiring relief from business, can desire no greater. He leaves London enveloped in a November fog, to suddenly find as he proceeds southwards till he arrives in the capital city of Marseilles. Again he crosses water; steps on shore; thirty-six hours have brought him to a new continent. The effect is the more striking from the contrast being so sudden. In Europe he left black hair and sombre dresses. In Algiers he sees the turban, the fez, the burnous, and the red mantel. Women in adras—a kind of kerchief which covers all the face except the eyes—move about like white dominoes. The streets present a lively and new scene. Here are Moorish eñes, where the natives sit cross-legged, smoking long pipes, cigar divans, bazaars with a good show of articles from Tunis and Algiers, barber shops, where the head is shaved oftener than the chin, Moors sitting on platforms working gold and silver thread on coloured cloth, and Arabs playing chess; all of which has for the new comer the attraction of novelty. It is a picture of Oriental life but never tires of looking at. The names over the shops and bazaars call to mind those we read of in the Eastern stories of our childhood, Ben-Turki, Hah-Almed, Ben-Ali, and the like. Then the names of the streets themselves, Bal-Oued, Bab-Azoum, and the rest. The places in the neighbourhood of Algiers have also retained their Oriental appellations—Mustapha, Agia, Bouzazah, and so on. The busses—almost innumerable in Algiers—that take us to them have also strange, if not always Arab, names; le Lion du Desert, la Panthere la Saenger, drive past our windows, and the like. Simplicia, la belle Andouie, la belle Julie, and other pretty girls and savage animals.

A walk, or rather a climb, into the old Arab town is highly interesting. Here are gems of Moorish architecture, courts like those of the Alhambra, with Moorsque arches round, and a fountain in the middle; arched doorways and windows in the style of the Venetians have taken from the Moors. What peeps into Arab houses as we pass. What fine forms are seated on the steps, framed by the ogive doorway, like a picture, which, indeed, they make. Sometimes a draped figure stands by in an attitude which, for grace and dignity, might serve as a statue of Junius Brutus, whilst others sit near what they sell, or enjoy the "dolee far miente" as only a half-naked Arab can do. We meet black men in white turbans and Arab Jewesses in green dresses embroidered in gold and silver. The streets in the upper town are narrow,

and as each story of the houses, from the first floor, projects beyond that below it, they almost touch each other at the top, so that we appear to be walking in a sort of arched or covered way with a glimpse of blue sky overhead. In this Arab quarter we scarcely ever see a man or woman in the Frank dress; ample robes and graceful drapery supply their place, and will tax the dark Arab faces set off by the white burnous. White soft black eyes look over the adjar, which leaves but in every instance native peacemakers intend to separate the combatants, which is more than is usually done in Christian countries. In speaking French with Arabs it is necessary to use the infinitive mood and the second person of the pronoun. Being always spoken to in this manner they have learnt to say *they* and *there*, everybody, besides which they leave out all useless words. This gives a familiar and drill turn to conversation with them. When an Arab does not understand he simply repeats what you say.

He is a specimen. We have one to find us a model to paint—

Who (anxiously)—To pass par force are Moors?

A (smiling)—No, not par force Moors.

We (anxiously)—To pass par force—To hate us

Arab (mildly)—Me lette, pas comprendre.

It is not easy for the artist to find an Arab model, as Mahomet, or prejuidice forbids them to have their likeness taken. I have heard many, but most of them had religious or other scruples; at last I found a face, sketching Kabyle for a full-length figure. I had scarcely sketched in the head when he swore "by the beard of the Prophet" he would stow it no longer, or risk the Devil Eye and Heaven for any Giaour in Christendom.

Arabs are usually associated with sandy deserts, hot sirocco, and barren hills; it brings to the mind a land peopled by uncivilised savages with black skins and ugly features. However wild and uninhabited a part of the exterior of this vast continent may be, the Algerian coast of the Mediterranean is as beautiful as the opposite shores of Italy, with a richer and more wonderful vegetation. Algeria is a *pays de cocagne*, a land of plenty, which nature has blessed with the best she has to bestow. Even in the south of Italy nature drops and languishes in winter, and the landscape is besieged by stone walls which are everywhere built round private property, making it impossible to obtain an extensive view. Here in Algiers the country is open as it is in England; fields and gardens are divided as they are with us, by hedges of hawthorn, honeysuckle, wild roses, and many fragrant shrubs of a growth peculiar to the vegetation of Africa. On the heights and in the plains villages and white Moorish houses are dotted about in every direction. In the midst of this paradise of nature we see Kabyles perched high on canals or dromedaries, or riding lady-fashion on mules and asses, but looking very unlike ladies, coming to market, their disparity so arranged as to form stirrups for their feet.

Speaking of African vegetation, in the Jardin d'Acclimatation, an omnibus driven from Algiers, has been brought together, in an extensive plantation, all the marvellous productions of the South. Here are avenues of palm and bamboo, their peculiar foliage arched overhead, forming a natural gallery, so deep in shade as almost to exclude the light of day; bananas with yellow fruit hanging from their branches, cotton, date trees, tea and coffee trees, nopal or Indian fig trees, sugar cane, tobacco plants, &c., flower and flourish here. More than six thousand different kinds from India and America have been introduced into this enclosure. In a word all that is under glass, and is kept alive by fire in the North, thrives in this delightful garden, in the natural heat of the sun. Ostriches strut about the grounds, whilst the swallows which left Europe before us again fly over our heads.

The Kabyles regard them as handsome girls, and follow her about in Arabic.

Speaking of Muscatela, as most of the English and other foreigners reside there, I must mention that it is an assemblage of villages, with gardens, half an hour's drive from town; most of them are modern, but some are Moorish palaces, which, during the days of the Regence, were the country houses of the Deyls of Algiers.

A few words about the natives will not be out of place in the description of Algiers.

The Moors, the former pirates, are the descendants of the original inhabitants of this part of Africa. The Kabyles regard them as an affeminate and indolent race, further degenerated by their town occupations, for which the mountaineers have a great contempt. Not being agriculturists, they live in towns, where they keep bazars, shops, &c. More striking and showily dressed than any other class, they may be called Oriental dandies.

The Kabyles, who live in the country, particularly in mountain districts, are in general "tillers of the soil," shepherds, &c., and come to town only to sell the produce of their farms. They are industrious and frugal. These Kabyles, or Berbers, are a warlike and valiant race, who were not conquered by the Romans or by any succeeding invaders before 1830, nor did the tribes of the Djerid submit to the French till 25 years after the conquest of the rest of Algeria. Although apparently the least勇敢的 people of the three provinces, they enjoy domestic life, take only one wife, and their woe, which is generally the case with Arabs and Moors. They are to be seen in great numbers in the streets and squares of Algiers, dressed in a simple burrous, often more remarkable for the graceful folds of its despatch than for its cleanliness. Many of them are fine-looking men, with handsome countenances of the real Arab type.

As Algeria was under the dominion of the Turks at the time of the conquest, many of them remained after it became a province of France. These are mostly well-to-do, portly gentlemen, who have villas and barouches in the neighbourhood of the town. They are remarkably clean and neat, and are easily distinguished by their white turbans.

The Spis, chiefs of Arab tribes or clans, now cavalry officers in the service of France. They are very conspicuous on their fiery Arab horses, their red mantles and white turbans thrown gracefully over the shoulder. Nothing is more striking than the proud bearing of these gallant cavaliers.

The Jews, since the conquest emancipated from the tyranny of their oppressors, now go on their way rejoicing, are numerous in Algiers. Their dress is not unlike that of the Greeks.

The blacks, who come from just beyond the Sabora, have not the ugly features and skinning faces of the negroes. In their gay, light dress and style of countenance they resemble the natives of British India.

The three primitive colours are well represented in the costumes in Algiers. Besides those which give a more animated and picturesque appearance to the streets and bazaars of this city than we find either at Cairo or Constantinople.

The houses in the French quarter of Algiers are built on arcades, as high as those of the Rue de Rivoli in Paris; these arcades are a great protection from sun and rain, which though it does not fall often, comes down occasionally, in very heavy showers.

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